AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claim set as shown below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (**Currently Amended**) A removably mountable vehicle equipment rack for holding equipment between headrests within a vehicle that has a first and a second headrest on one or more seats, each headrest having at least one ~~approximately vertical~~ headrest post extending approximately vertically upward from the one or more seats; ~~wherein directions for the rack when it is removably mounted are defined relative to the vehicle such that lateral directions of the rack are approximately horizontally forward/rearward meaning toward a front/rear, respectively, of the vehicle, and longitudinal directions of the rack are approximately horizontally outward/inward meaning toward/away from, respectively, a nearest vehicle side;~~ the vehicle equipment rack comprising: ~~characterized by:~~

a longitudinally extending hook bar assembly having a guide portion, and at least one longitudinally sliding portion telescopically engaged with the guide portion;

a generally planar ~~an approximately horizontal~~ equipment supporting shelf attached on ~~top of~~ the hook bar assembly such that the shelf intersects the hook bar assembly along a parallel longitudinal line and extends laterally from opposed sides of the longitudinal line;

two end hooks on distal longitudinally outward ends of the hook bar assembly, wherein one end hook is configured for hooking on a headrest post of the first headrest, and the other end hook is configured for hooking on a headrest post of the second headrest,

thereby removably mounting the vehicle equipment rack between the first and second headrest posts, supported by the seat; ~~and further wherein inside walls of the end hook are V-shaped for establishing only two vertical lines of contact between the end hook and the headrest post;~~

at least one of the two end hooks further comprising two planar inside hook walls fixed orthogonal to the plane of the attached equipment support shelf such that the two inside hook walls form an acute angled V-shape that opens in a longitudinally inward or outward direction;

generally rectangular cross-sections for the guide portion and the at least one sliding portion where they are telescopically engaged; and

a spring connected for longitudinally biasing the two end hooks with respect to each other, and in the direction of opening for the V-shape of the inside hook walls of the at least one end hook;

thereby biasing the V-shaped planar inside hook walls of the at least one end hook against a respective headrest post when the vehicle equipment rack is removably mounted thereupon, which causes the V-shaped planar inside hook walls to be biased into approximately vertical alignment with the respective headrest post, making the shelf approximately horizontal, and

thereby opposing torque about a longitudinal axis of the hook bar assembly such as would be caused by weight of equipment supported thereabove on the shelf.

Claims 2-3. (Canceled)

4. (**Currently Amended**) The vehicle equipment rack of claim 1, wherein the **at least one** end hook ~~**has a**~~ **further comprises, when removably mounted, a laterally** forward opening **for the end** hook ~~**with inside walls including**~~ **such that the two planar inside hook walls further comprise**:

a longitudinally straight shank wall that extends longitudinally outward **from the hook bar assembly**; and

a straight finger wall that extends from the longitudinally outward end of the shank wall, and that is angled forward and longitudinally inward relative to the shank wall.

5. (Canceled)

6. (**Currently Amended**) The vehicle equipment rack of claim 1, wherein the **at least one** end hook ~~**has a**~~ **further comprises, when removably mounted, a laterally** rearward opening **for the end** hook ~~**with inside walls including**~~ **such that the two planar inside hook walls further comprise**:

a longitudinally straight shank wall that extends longitudinally outward **from the hook bar assembly**; and

a straight finger wall that extends from the longitudinally outward end of the shank wall, and that is angled rearward and longitudinally inward relative to the shank wall.

7. (**Previously Presented**) A vehicle equipment rack for removably holding equipment on a shelf that is removably mounted within a vehicle that has a first and a second headrest on one or more seats, each headrest having at least one headrest post, the vehicle equipment rack characterized by:

a hook bar assembly having a guide portion, and at least one sliding portion telescopically engaged with the guide portion, wherein the hook bar assembly is attached to the shelf;

two end hooks on distal longitudinally outward ends of the hook bar assembly, wherein one end hook is configured for hooking on a headrest post of the first headrest, and the other end hook is configured for hooking on a headrest post of the second headrest; and further wherein each of the two end hooks has a rearward opening hook with inside walls including:

a longitudinally straight shank wall that extends longitudinally outward; and

a straight finger wall that extends from the longitudinally outward end of the shank wall, and that is angled rearward and longitudinally inward relative to the shank wall;

a spring connected for biasing the two end hooks with respect to each other;

an anti-rotation bar extending longitudinally outward from the rearward opening hook such that a bar wall is parallel to, and approximately collinear with, the shank wall; wherein:

the anti-rotation bar is dimensioned to be long enough to reach at least longitudinally outward of an outside headrest post when the rearward opening hook is hooked on an inside headrest post.

8. (**Currently Amended**) The vehicle equipment rack of claim 1, wherein**:**

the spring biases the two end hooks longitudinally outward.

the **at least one** end hook has ~~**an**~~ **a longitudinally** outward opening **V-shaped** hook ~~**with inside walls including**~~ **such that, when removably mounted, the two planar inside hook walls further comprise**:

a forward finger wall that extends **laterally** forward and longitudinally outward **from the**

hook bar assembly, and a rearward finger wall that extends **laterally** rearward and longitudinally outward **from the hook bar assembly.**~~;~~

~~**wherein the forward finger wall and the rearward finger wall are angled relative to each other.**~~

9. (Previously Presented) A vehicle equipment rack for removably holding equipment on a shelf that is removably mounted within a vehicle that has a first and a second headrest on one or more seats, each headrest having at least one headrest post, the vehicle equipment rack characterized by:

a hook bar assembly having a guide portion, and at least one sliding portion telescopically engaged with the guide portion, wherein the hook bar assembly is attached to the shelf;

two end hooks on distal longitudinally outward ends of the hook bar assembly, wherein one end hook is configured for hooking on a headrest post of the first headrest, and the other end hook is configured for hooking on a headrest post of the second headrest;

a spring connected for biasing the two end hooks with respect to each other;

a socket on the hook bar assembly that opens longitudinally outward;

a latch hole in a lateral inside surface of the socket;

a hook portion of the end hook;

a peg portion of the end hook extending longitudinally inward from the hook portion wherein the peg portion is configured to fit within the socket;

a flange of the hook portion where the hook portion joins the peg portion, wherein the flange is laterally dimensioned larger than the socket;

a shoulder of the peg portion adjacent to the flange wherein the shoulder is laterally dimensioned to closely fit within the socket;

a first lateral wall of the peg portion that is recessed relative to the socket;

a peg spring extending from the first lateral wall, and configured for biasing apart the first lateral wall and the socket when the peg portion is positioned in the socket; and

a protrusion extending laterally from a second lateral wall of the peg portion that is laterally opposed to the first lateral wall, wherein the protrusion is dimensioned and shaped for

mating with, and catching in, the latch hole, and the latch hole is positioned to catch the protrusion when the peg portion is inserted into the socket such that the flange longitudinally abuts the socket.

Claims 10-11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) The vehicle equipment rack of claim 9, further characterized in that:

the end hook has a forward opening hook portion;

the first lateral wall of the peg portion faces forward;

the second lateral wall of the peg portion faces rearward; and

a spring is connected for biasing the end hook longitudinally inward.

13. (Previously Presented) The vehicle equipment rack of claim 12, further characterized in that:

the shelf is attached to the guide portion;

the guide portion is a tube having a rectangular cross-section;

two sliding portions are the two distal longitudinally outward ends of the hook bar assembly; and

both of the two sliding portions have rectangular cross sections and are telescopically engaged for sliding longitudinally within the guide portion.

Claims 14-16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously Presented) The vehicle equipment rack of claim 1, further characterized by:

a limit pin that is secured in one of the sliding portion and the guide portion; and

an extension limiter with limit hooks that is attached to the other one of the sliding portion and the guide portion, and that is cooperatively engaged with the limit pin for limiting outward extension of the sliding portion.

18. (Previously Presented) The vehicle equipment rack of claim 1, further characterized by:

a tolerance bump that extends between the guide portion and the at least one sliding portion.

19. (Previously Presented) The vehicle equipment rack of claim 1, further characterized

by:

a pivoting connection of the shelf to the hook bar assembly; and

pivot stops for limiting the extent of shelf pivoting.

20. (Previously Presented) The vehicle equipment rack of claim 1, further characterized by:

a retaining post that protrudes upward near a forward edge of the shelf;

an elastic cord that is attached near a first side edge of the shelf and has a knot at an end of the elastic cord that is removably caught in a cord notch in a second side edge of the shelf opposite to the first side edge, wherein the cord notch opens outward at the second side edge; and

a strap having a first end that is attached to a first side edge of the shelf, and having a second end with hook-and-loop material that removably attaches to a fastening pad with a corresponding hook-and-loop material, wherein the fastening pad is affixed near the second side edge of the shelf.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously Presented) The vehicle equipment rack of claim 1, further characterized by:

a softened laterally rearward edge of the shelf.

23. (**Previously Presented**) The vehicle equipment rack of claim 1, further characterized by:

a compressible sleeve removably hooked on the headrest post and positioned to extend vertically between the end hook and a headrest supported by the headrest post:

thereby resisting vertical movement of the end hook.

24. (Previously Presented) The vehicle equipment rack of claim 1, further characterized by:

an audio transmitter; and

an audio cord that is connected between the audio transmitter and an audio plug for plugging into the equipment.

25. (Previously Presented) The vehicle equipment rack of claim 1, further characterized by:

a power jack module ; and

a power cord that is connected between the power jack module and a power plug for plugging into the equipment.

26. (Previously Presented) The vehicle equipment rack of claim 25, wherein the power jack module is further characterized by:

power conversion circuitry.

27. (Previously Presented) The vehicle equipment rack of claim 25, wherein the power jack module is further characterized by:

power conditioning circuitry.

Claims 28-42. (Canceled)

43. (**Currently Amended**) The vehicle equipment rack of claim 1, wherein:

the end ~~**hook is**~~ **hooks are** biased longitudinally outward~~; and the end hook opens~~ **and open** longitudinally outward.

44. (**Currently Amended**) The vehicle equipment rack of claim 1, wherein:

the end ~~**hook is**~~ **hooks are** biased longitudinally inward; and

when removably mounted, an inside wall of the **at least one** end hook slopes **laterally** forward and longitudinally inward for removably and releasably holding the rack on the headrest post.

45. (**Currently Amended**) The vehicle equipment rack of claim 1, wherein:

the end ~~**hook is**~~ **hooks are** biased longitudinally inward; and

when removably mounted, an inside wall of the **at least one** end hook slopes **laterally** rearward and longitudinally inward for removably and releasably holding the rack on the headrest post.